JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)	CIVIL C	OVER SHEET	Va-RI.	- 1252		
purpose of initiating the civil de	The information contained herein neither replace n This form, approved by the Judicial Conference exet sheet. ISEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE O	or supplement the filing and service of the United States in September 1 OF THIS FORM.)	of pleadings or other papers 974, is required for the use of	1 2 5 0		
I. (a) PLAIN PIFFS  JOANNI MAS PERSO		BARCLAYS BANK	DEFENDANTS  BARCLAYS BANK DELAWARE, EXPERIAN INFORMATION SOLUTIONS, INC., and TransUnion, LLC,  County of Residence of First Listed Defendant New Castle, DE  (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES OF LY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LICCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.			
	f First Listed Plainliff BUCKS CEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, A Antranig N. Garibian, 1800 John F. Kennedy Philadelphia, PA 1910 Telephone: (215) 326-6	3	Attorneys (If Known)				
II. BASIS OF JURISD	TION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	I. CITIZENSHIP OF PRI	NCIPAL PARTIES (PA	ace an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff		
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)		IF DEF 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In 3			
2 U.S. Government Defendant	Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	02070 001 000 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	2 Incorporated and of Business In 3			
		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 Foreign Nation	0 00		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT		CODEDITUDEMENTALTY	I DANIZDUREZV	I OTHER STATUTES		
CONTRACT	TORTS  PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJUR	FORFEITURE/PENALTY  © 625 Drug Related Seizure	BANKRUPTCY  422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES  375 False Claims Act		
□ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 190 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise    REAL PROPERTY □ 210 Land Condemnation □ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 240 Torts to Land □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY    310 Airplane   365 Personal Injury   Product Liability   367 Health Care/   Pharmaceutical   Personal Injury   Product Liability   368 Asbestos Personal   Personal Injury   Product Liability   368 Asbestos Personal   Injury   Product Liability   368 Asbestos Personal   Injury   Product Liability   369 Asbestos Personal   Injury   Product Liability   PERSONAL PROPEI   370 Other Personal   Property Damage   371 Truth in Lending   370 Other Personal   Property Damage   385 Property Damage   385 Property Damage   385 Property Damage   385 Property Damage   Product Liability   PRISONER PETITIO   440 Other Civil Rights   441 Voting   442 Employment   443 Housing/ Accommodations   445 Amer. w/Disabilities   530 General   535 Death Penalty   Other;   340 Mandamus & Other   550 Civil Rights   555 Prison Conditions of Confinement   560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confirement   560 Civil Detaine	of Property 21 USC 881    690 Other     690 Other     10	□ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157  PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 840 Trademark  SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g))  FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	400 State Reapportionment   410 Antitrust   430 Banks and Banking   450 Commerce   460 Deportation   470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations   440 Consumer Credit   90 Cable/Sat TV   850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange   890 Other Statutory Actions   891 Agricultural Acts   893 Environmental Matters   895 Freedom of Information Act   896 Arbitration   899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision   950 Constitutionality of State Statutes		
		Reopened Anote (special states) Reopened (special states) Anote (special states) Reopened (speci				
ACTION	Brief description of cause: Defendants violated the Fair Credit Reporting		aintiff's Credit Renort			
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND \$ \$45,000		if demanded in complaint:  ∴ ⊠ es □ No		
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	(See instructions):  JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	APR 18 2018		
DATE 04/15/2016	SIGNATURE OF ATTO	ORNEY OF RECORD		S.T.		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY  RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JU	DGE		

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

10 Teal Drive, Langhorne, PA 19047  Barclays, 125 South West St., Wilmington, DE 19	9801; Experian, 475 Anton Blvd., Costa Mesa, CA		
ddress of Defendant: 92626; TransUnion, 555 W. Adams, Chicago, IL			
ace of Accident Incident or Transaction: Langhorne, PA			
(Use Reverse Side For A	dditional Space)		
oes this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation a	nd any publicly held corporation owning 10% or more of its stock?		
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a))			
1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	Yest NotX		
oes this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	1034		
ase Number: Judge	Date Terminated:		
ivil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:			
Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year	ear previously terminated action in this court?  Yes No  Yes		
Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior s			
Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior s action in this court?	Lange of the land		
	Yes□ No <b>®</b>		
. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier r	numbered case pending or within one year previously  Yes□ No. Mo.		
terminated action in this court?	Yesu Nou		
Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil righ	ts case filed by the same individual?		
is this case a second of successive findent corpus, seems of the property of	Yes□ No₫		
IVIL: (Place V in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)			
Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:  1.  Insurance Contract and Other Contracts		
1.   Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts			
2. D FELA	2. Airplane Personal Injury		
3. □ Jones Act-Personal Injury	3. □ Assault, Defamation		
4. □ Antitrust	4.   Marine Personal Injury		
5. D Patent	5. Motor Vehicle Personal Injury		
6.   Labor-Management Relations	6.   Other Personal Injury (Please specify)		
7. D Civil Rights	7. Products Liability		
8.   Habeas Corpus	8. Products Liability — Asbestos		
9. D Securities Act(s) Cases	9.   All other Diversity Cases		
10. Social Security Review Cases	(Please specify)		
11 X Al other Federal Question Cases	A -A)		
(Pease specify) 15 U.S.C. Section 1681 (Fair Credit Reporting	( ACL)		
ARBITRATION CER	TIFICATION		
(Check Appropriate	Category)		
I, counsel of record do hereby cert  Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and	nry: d belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of		
\$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;			
□ Relief other than monetary damages is sought.			
n. Th			
DATE: Attorney-at-Law	Attorney I.D.#		
NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if t	here has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.		
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending o	or within one year previously terminated action in this court		
except as noted above.	er om en		
()+ Ki/.	94538		
DATE: April 19, 2016  Attorney-at-Law	Attorney I.D.#		
CIV. 609 (5/2012)			
Ott. Ser (Marie)	APR 18 2016		



## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

# CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Joanne Masterson

CIVIL ACTION

NO. 16

1852

Barclays Bank Delaware, Experian Information

Solutions, Inc. and TransUnion, LLC

In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a Case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties. a Case Management Track Designation Form appointing the track the plaintiff and all other parties, a Case Management Track Designation Form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.

# SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CASE MANAGEMENT TRACKS:

Telephone FAX Number E-Mail Ad		E-Mail Address		
Date (215) 326-9179	Attorney-at-law (267) 238-3801	Attorney for ag@garibianlaw.com		
April 19, 2016	Antranig Garibian, Esquire	Plaintiff		
(f) Standard Manageme	nt – Cases that do not fall into any one	of the other tracks.	(	)
commonly referred to	<ul> <li>Cases that do not fall into tracks (a)         o as complex and that need special or it         se side of this form for a detailed expla</li> </ul>	ntense management by	C	)
(d) Asbestos – Cases inv exposure to asbestos.	rolving claims for personal injury or pro	operty damage from		)
(c) Arbitration – Cases r	equired to be designated for arbitration	under Local Civil Rule 53.2.	(X)	)
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits.				
a) Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 through § 2255.				

(Civ. 660) 10/02

### Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan Section 1:03 - Assignment to a Management Track

- (a) The clerk of court will assign cases to tracks (a) through (d) based on the initial pleading.
- (b) In all cases not appropriate for assignment by the clerk of court to tracks (a) through (d), the plaintiff shall submit to the clerk of court and serve with the complaint on all defendants a case management track designation form specifying that the plaintiff believes the case requires Standard Management or Special Management. In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a case management track designation form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.
- (c) The court may, on its own initiative or upon the request of any party, change the track assignment of any case at any time.
- (d) Nothing in this Plan is intended to abrogate or limit a judicial officer's authority in any case pending before that judicial officer, to direct pretrial and trial proceedings that are more stringent than those of the Plan and that are designed to accomplish cost and delay reduction.
- (e) Nothing in this Plan is intended to supersede Local Civil Rules 40.1 and 72.1, or the procedure for random assignment of Habeas Corpus and Social Security cases referred to magistrate judges of the court.

#### SPECIAL MANAGEMENT CASE ASSIGNMENTS (See §1.02 (e) Management Track Definitions of the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan)

Special Management cases will usually include that class of cases commonly referred to as "complex litigation" as that term has been used in the Manuals for Complex Litigation. The first manual was prepared in 1969 and the Manual for Complex Litigation Second, MCL 2d was prepared in 1985. This term is intended to include cases that present unusual problems and require extraordinary treatment. See §0.1 of the first manual. Cases may require special or intense management by the court due to one or more of the following factors: (1) large number of parties; (2) large number of claims or defenses; (3) complex factual issues; (4) large volume of evidence; (5) problems locating or preserving evidence; (6) extensive discovery; (7) exceptionally long time needed to prepare for disposition; (8) decision needed within an exceptionally short time; and (9) need to decide preliminary issues before final disposition. It may include two or more related cases. Complex litigation typically includes such cases as antitrust cases; cases involving a large number of parties or an unincorporated association of large membership; cases involving requests for injunctive relief affecting the operation of large business entities; patent cases; copyright and trademark cases; common disaster cases such as those arising from aircraft crashes or marine disasters; actions brought by individual stockholders; stockholder's derivative and stockholder's representative actions; class actions or potential class actions; and other civil (and criminal) cases involving unusual multiplicity or complexity of factual issues. See §0.22 of the first Manual for Complex Litigation and Manual for Complex Litigation Second, Chapter 33.

H400



## GARIBIAN LAW OFFICES, P.C.

Antranig N. Garibian, Esq., PA Attorney ID No. 94538

1800 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 300

Philadelphia, PA 19103 Telephone: (215) 326-9179 ag@garibianlaw.com Attorneys for Plaintiff



APR 1 8 2016

MICHAELE, KUNZ, Clerk
By Dep. Clerk

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Joanne Masterson,

Plaintiff,

- against-

Barclays Bank Delaware, Experian Information Solutions, Inc. and TransUnion, LLC,

Defendant(s).

Civil Action No.

16 1852

COMPLAINT

## **COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, Joanne Masterson (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through her attorneys, Garibian Law Offices, P.C., by way of Complaint against Defendants, Barclays Bank Delaware ("Barclays"), Experian Information Solutions, Inc. ("Experian"), and TransUnion LLC ("Transunion"), alleges as follows:

### INTRODUCTION

 This is an action for damages brought by an individual consumer for Defendants' violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq. (the "FCRA") and other claims related to unlawful credit reporting practices. The FCRA prohibits furnishers of credit information to falsely and inaccurately report consumers' credit information to credit reporting agencies.

### **PARTIES**

- Plaintiff, Joanne Masterson, is an adult citizen of the state of Pennsylvania domiciled in Langhorne, PA.
- 3. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(c) of the FCRA.
- 4. Defendant Barclays is a corporation business entity organized and existing under the laws of Delaware that furnishes consumer credit information to consumer reporting agencies. It has a principal place of business located at 125 South West Street, Wilmington, DE 19801.
- 5. Defendant Experian is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Ohio that engages in the business of maintaining and reporting consumer credit information. It has a principal place of business located at 475 Anton Blvd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626.
- 6. Defendant Transunion is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of Delaware that engages in the business of maintaining and reporting consumer credit information. It has a principal place of business located at 555 W. Adams, Chicago, IL 60661.

### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

7. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because the rights and obligations of the parties in this action are defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681 and pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681p, which provides that an action to enforce any liability created under 15 U.S.C. § 1681

- may be brought in any appropriate United States district court, without regard to the amount in controversy.
- Venue in this district is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because a substantial part of the events and omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in Pennsylvania.

### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 9. Defendant Barclays issued a credit card account ending in 9583 to Plaintiff.
- 10. This account was routinely reported on Plaintiff's consumer credit report.
- 11. The consumer report at issue is a written communication of information concerning Plaintiff's credit worthiness, credit standing, credit capacity, character, general reputation, personal characteristics, or mode of living which is used or for the purpose of serving as a factor in establishing the consumer's eligibility for credit to be used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(d)(1) of the FCRA.
- 12. On August 25, 2012, Plaintiff and Phillips & Cohen Associates, Ltd., on behalf of Barclays, entered into a settlement agreement for the above referenced account. A copy of the settlement agreement is attached herein as <u>Exhibit A</u>.
- 13. Pursuant to the terms of the settlement, Plaintiff was required to make eleven (11) monthly payments totaling \$7,608.00 to settle and close her Barclays account.
- 14. In addition, the agreement indicated that Barclays would report this account as settled upon successful completion of the settlement agreement.

- 15. Plaintiff, via her debt settlement law firm, the Law Offices of Robert S. Gitmeid & Assoc., PLLC, timely made each settlement payment. Proofs of these payments are attached herein as <u>Exhibit B</u>.
- 16. On January 21, 2016, Philips and Cohen Associates, LTD. on behalf of Barclays sent Plaintiff a paid-in-full letter confirming the settled status of the account. This letter is attached herein as <a href="Exhibit C">Exhibit C</a>.
- 17. However, Plaintiff's Barclays account is being negatively reported.
- 18. In particular, on a requested credit report dated February 1, 2016, Plaintiff's Barclays account was reported with a status of "CHARGE OFF," a balance of \$20,159.00 and a past due balance of \$4,225.00. The relevant portion of Plaintiff's credit report is attached herein as Exhibit D.
- 19. This trade line was inaccurately reported. As evidenced by the settlement agreement and proofs of payments, the account was settled for less the than full balance and must be reported as such.
- 20. Plaintiff, via her attorney at the time, notified Defendants directly of a dispute on the Barclays account's completeness and/or accuracy. This letter and the certified mail receipt is attached herein as <u>Exhibit E</u>.
- 21. Therefore, Plaintiff disputed the accuracy of the derogatory information reported by Barclays to the Consumer Reporting Agencies, Experian and Transunion, via certified mail in accordance with 15 U.S.C. § 1681i of the FCRA.
- 22. Plaintiff complied fully with the settlement agreement, as confirmed by Barclays agent, Plaintiff's settlement payment was received by Barclays on the

- settlement due dates, and as such Barclays must report the account as settled, in accordance with the settlement agreement.
- 23. On April 11, 2016, Plaintiff requested an updated credit report for review. The tradeline for the Barclays account in question remained essentially the same as the February 1, 2016 credit report, as Defendants failed to correct the inaccuracy. The relevant portion of the April 11, 2016 credit report is attached herein as Exhibit F.
- 24. Experian and Transunion did not notify Barclays of the dispute by Plaintiff in accordance with the FCRA, or alternatively, did notify Barclays and Barclays failed to properly investigate and delete the tradeline or properly update the tradeline on Plaintiff's credit reports.
- 25. If Barclays did perform a reasonable investigation of Plaintiff's dispute, Plaintiff's Barclays account would be updated to reflect a settled status with a \$0 balance.
- 26. Barclays has promised through its subscriber agreements or contracts to accurately update accounts but Barclays has nonetheless willfully, maliciously, recklessly, wantonly, and/or negligently failed to follow this requirement as well as the requirements set forth under the FCRA, which has resulted in the intended consequences of this information remaining on Plaintiff's credit reports.
- 27. Defendants failed to properly maintain and failed to follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of Plaintiff's credit information and Plaintiff's credit report, concerning the account in question,

- thus violating the FCRA. These violations occurred before, during, and after the dispute process began with Experian and Transunion.
- 28. At all times pertinent hereto, Defendants were acting by and through their agents, servants and/or employees, who were acting within the scope and course of their employment, and under the direct supervision and control of the Defendants herein.
- 29. At all times pertinent hereto, the conduct of Defendants, as well as that of their agents, servants and/or employees, was malicious, intentional, willful, reckless, negligent and in wanton disregard for federal law and the rights of the Plaintiff herein.

### **CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

- 30. Plaintiff reasserts and incorporates herein by reference all facts and allegations set forth above.
- 31. Experian is a "consumer reporting agency," as codified at 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(e).
- 32. Transunion is a "consumer reporting agency," as codified at 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(e).
- 33. Barclays is an entity who, regularly and in the course of business, furnishes information to one or more consumer reporting agencies about its transactions or experiences with any consumer and therefore constitutes a "furnisher," as codified at 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2.
- 34. Barclays is reporting inaccurate credit information concerning Plaintiff to one or more credit bureaus as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a of the FCRA.

- 35. Plaintiff notified Defendants directly of a dispute on the account's completeness and/or accuracy, as reported.
- 36. Barclays failed to complete an investigation of Plaintiff's written dispute and provide the results of an investigation to Plaintiff and the credit bureaus within the 30 day statutory period as required by 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2(b).
- 37. Barclays failed to update Plaintiff's credit report and/or notify the credit bureaus that the Barclays account in question was disputed in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2(b).
- 38. Barclays failed to promptly modify the inaccurate information on Plaintiff's credit report in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1681s-2(b).
- 39. Experian and Transunion failed to delete information found to be inaccurate, reinserted the information without following the FCRA, or failed to properly investigate Plaintiff's disputes.
- 40. Experian and Transunion failed to maintain and failed to follow reasonable procedures to assure maximum possible accuracy of Plaintiff's credit report, concerning the account in question, violating 15 U.S.C. § 1681e(b).
- 41. As a result of the above violations of the FCRA, Defendants are liable to Plaintiff for actual damages, punitive damages, statutory damages, attorney's fees and costs.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff demands that judgment in the sum of \$45,000.00 be entered against Defendants as follows:

- 1. That judgment be entered against Defendants for actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n or alternatively, 15 U.S.C. § 1681o;
- 2. That judgment be entered against Defendants for punitive damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n;
- 3. That the Court award costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1681n or alternatively, 15 U.S.C. § 1681o; and
- 4. That the Court grant such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Respectfully Submitted,

GARIBIAN LAW OFFICES, P.C.

Antranig N. Garibian, Esq. PA Attorney ID No. 94538

1800 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 300

Philadelphia, PA 19103 Telephone: (215) 326-9179 ag@garibianlaw.com Attorneys for Plaintiff